

## 5 WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Mark  
A

1. An adjustable clip assembly, comprising:  
first and second, opposing jaw portions, said jaw portions having first ends  
that are joined together and second ends that are spread apart so as to define a  
receiving area; and

10

a finger-operable adjustment screw interconnecting said first and second jaw portions, for adjustably urging said jaw portions into gripping engagement with an article positioned within said receiving area.

15

2. The adjustable clip assembly of claim 1, further comprising:

means for resiliently biasing said jaw portions apart on opposite sides of said receiving area, so that said jaw portions spread apart in response to loosening of said adjustment screw.

20

3. The adjustable clip assembly of claim 2, wherein said means for resiliently biasing said jaw portions apart comprises:

a live hinge connecting said first ends of said jaw portions at a common base.

25

4. The adjustable clip assembly of claim 3, wherein said jaw portions and said live hinge are formed as a unitarily molded structure.

30

5. The adjustable clip assembly of claim 2, wherein said adjustment screw comprises:

30

a threaded shaft spanning said first and second jaw portions at a location intermediate said first and second ends thereof.

35

6. The adjustable clip assembly of claim 5, wherein said threaded shaft is received in a threaded bore in at least one of said jaw portions, so that said threaded shaft draws said jaw portions together in response to rotation of said shaft.

5        7. The adjustable clip assembly of claim 6, wherein said adjustment screw further comprises:

      a knob member mounted on an end of said threaded shaft for manual rotation thereof.

10        8. The adjustable clip assembly of claim 5, wherein said threaded shaft comprises:

      a first end which is mounted to said first jaw portion and a second, threaded end which extends through an opening in said second jaw portion so as to protrude outwardly therefrom;

15        said protruding end of said shaft being received in threaded engagement with a rotatable member, so that said rotatable member urges said second jaw portion towards said first jaw portion in response to rotation of said rotatable member thereon.

20        9. The clip assembly of claim 8, wherein said rotatable member comprises an internally threaded knob.

25        10. The clip assembly of claim 1, wherein said jaw portions further comprise: first and second contoured surfaces for engaging sheet material of a tarp positioned within said receiving area.

30        11. The clip assembly of claim 10, wherein said contoured surfaces comprise: a plurality of discreet teeth formed on said first jaw portion; and a plurality of discreet sockets formed on second jaw portion for receiving said teeth therein;

      so that said sheet material of a tarp will be forced into said sockets by said teeth when said jaw portions are tightened thereon.

5        12. The clip assembly of claim 11, wherein said teeth and said sockets have a generally symmetrical configuration within a plane of said sheet material of a tarp positioned within said receiving area.

10      13. The clip assembly of claim 12, wherein said teeth and sockets comprise corresponding substantially hemispherical protrusions and receptacles.

14. The clip assembly of claim 10, wherein said contoured surfaces comprise: a plurality of transverse, inter-fitting ridges formed on said first and second jaw portions.

15      15. The clip assembly of claim 14, wherein said contoured surfaces further comprise: surface texturing formed on at least one of said ridges for gripping said sheet material of a tarp.

20      16. The clip assembly of claim 15, wherein said surface texturing comprises: a multiplicity of small, raised protrusions forming a grainy surface for engaging said sheet material of a tarp.

25      17. The clip assembly of claim 2, further comprising: an attachment portion extending from said joined ends of said jaw portions for attachment of a cord thereto.

30      18. The clip assembly of claim 17, wherein said attachment portion comprises: a through opening for passage of said cord therethrough.

35      19. The clip assembly of claim 17, wherein said attachment portion comprises:

      a hook opening for receiving said cord therein.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

5

20. An adjustable clip assembly, comprising:

first and second opposing jaw portions having first ends that are joined together and second ends that are spread apart so as to define a receiving area;

10 a live hinge interconnecting said joined ends of said jaw portions so as to resiliently bias said jaw portions apart;

15 a threaded rod interconnecting said jaw portions at a location intermediate said joined and spread apart ends thereof, said threaded rod having a first end which is mounted to said first jaw portion and a second, threaded end which extends through an opening in said second jaw portion so as to protrude outwardly therefrom;

an internally threaded knob in threaded engagement with said protruding end of said threaded rod, so that said knob urges said second jaw portion towards said first jaw portion in response to tightening of said knob on said rod;

20 first and second contoured surfaces formed on said jaw portions for engaging sheet material of a tarp which is positioned within said receiving area; and

25 an attachment portion extending from said joined ends of said jaw portions and having at least one opening for receiving a cord therem.

*Add*  
*A3*

30

35